

ED411929 1997-10-00 Community Colleges: General Information and Resources. ERIC Digest.

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WHAT ARE COMMUNITY COLLEGES?

The community college is defined as any institution accredited to award the associate in arts or science as its highest degree. There are 1364 publicly supported community colleges in the United States. Most offer a comprehensive curriculum including the following programs: transfer/liberal arts programs designed for students who plan to obtain a baccalaureate degree; these programs lead to an associate degree in science or the arts; vocational/occupational programs leading to a certificate or an associate degree in applied science; community education and personal interest courses which do not award academic credit; developmental/remedial programs designed to prepare students to enter degree or certificate programs by improving their communication or mathematical skills. In addition, there are 437 private institutions, including accredited proprietary institutions.

WHO ATTENDS PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN

THE UNITED STATES? Approximately 42% of the first-time, full-time freshmen in the U.S. enroll in a community college, earning some 465,053 associate degrees in 1993-94. Credit course enrollment totaled 2 million full-time and 3.5 million part-time students in Fall 1993. The average age of the student is approximately 32. The modal age of the student is 19. Women make up 57.8% of community college enrollments. In terms of ethnicity, 69.8% of community college students are Caucasian, 11.1% are African- American, 10.5% are Hispanic, 4.6% are Asian, and 1% are Native American. Approximately 1% are nonresident aliens. Approximately 46.4% of all minorities enrolled in higher education are attending two-year colleges.

WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FACULTY?

76,413 faculty members teach in two-year institutions. About 69% are part-time instructors. 63.9% of the faculty have a masters as their highest degree and 18.9% hold a doctorate or professional degree. The average salary for instructors in public two-year colleges in 1995 was \$42,101.

HOW ARE COMMUNITY COLLEGES FINANCED?

State appropriations, tuition, and local funds comprise most of the operating funds. State appropriations accounted for 43% of the operating revenue for public two-year colleges in Fall 1992. Tuition accounted for 22% of the revenue in Fall 1994. Local funds accounted for 19% of the revenues in Fall 1994. Average charges in 1996 for tuition and fees were approximately \$1245 at public community colleges and \$11,502 at private two-year colleges.

WHAT ORGANIZATIONS ARE CONCERNED

WITH COMMUNITY

COLLEGES?American Association of Community Colleges



President: David R. Pierce



One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 410



Washington, D.C. 20036-1176



202/728-0200



<http://www.aacc.nche.edu>

American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges



State Technical Institute at Memphis



5983 Macon Cove



Memphis, TN 38134



901/383-4643



<http://www.amatyc.org>

Association of Canadian Community Colleges



President: Tom Norton



1223 Michael St., Suite 200



Ottawa, ON K1J 7T2



613/746-6492

Association of Community College Trustees



President: Ray Taylor



1740 N. Street, N.W.



Washington, D.C. 20036



202/775-4667

Community College Consortium



Managing Director: Patricia Carter



2034M School of Education Building



University of Michigan



Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1259



313/747-1978

Community College Humanities Association



President: David A. Berry



Essex County College



303 University Avenue



Newark, NJ 07102



201/877-3204

ERIC Clearinghouse for Community Colleges



Director: Arthur M. Cohen



3051 Moore Hall, Box 951521



University of California



Los Angeles, CA 90095



800/832-8256



<http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/ERIC/eric.html> League for Innovation in the Community College



Executive Director: Terry O'Banion



26522 La Alameda, Suite 370



Mission Viejo, CA 92691



714/367-2884



<http://www.league.org>

National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD)



Director: Suanne Roueche



University of Texas at Austin



College of Education, SZB 348



Austin, TX 78712-1293



512/471-7545



<http://www.nisod.org>

Many other groups formed around curricular areas and special interests are active in the two-year college field.

WHAT PERIODICALS FOCUS ON COMMUNITY COLLEGES?

Community College Journal



American Association of Community Colleges



One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 410



Washington, D.C. 20036

Community College Journal of Research and



Practice Taylor & Francis, Publishers



1010 Vermont Avenue N.W., Suite 200



Washington, D.C. 20005

Community College Review



Box 7801



Raleigh, NC 27695-7801

Community College Times



American Association of Community Colleges



One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 410



Washington, DC 20036

Community College Week



10520 Warwick Ave., Suite B-8



Fairfax, VA 22030-3136

Journal of Applied Research in the Community College



Department of Educational Administration and Foundations




Illinois State University



331 DeGarmo Hall



Normal, IL 61761-5900 New Directions for Community Colleges



Jossey-Bass Inc., Publishers



350 Sansome Street



San Francisco, CA 94104

WHAT BOOKS ARE SUGGESTED FOR ADDITIONAL

INFORMATION? Addy, C. L. (1995). The president's journey: issues and ideals in the community college. Jaffrey, NH: Anker Publishing Company, Inc. 145 pp. Baker, G. A., III, & Others (Eds.). (1994). A handbook on the community college in America: its history, mission, and management. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press. 720 pp. Cohen, A. M., & Brawer, F. B. (1996). The American community college (3rd ed.). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, Inc. 539 pp. Eaton, J. S. (1994). Strengthening collegiate education in community colleges. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Inc. 202 pp. Falcone, L. (Ed.). (1994). The critical link: community colleges and the workforce. Washington, DC: American Association of Community Colleges. 97 pp. Griffith, M., & Connor, A. (1994). Democracy's open door: the community college in America's future. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann. 159 pp.

Grubb, W. N., (1996). Working in the middle: strengthening education and training for the mid-skilled labor force. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, Inc. 304 pp.

Myran, Gunder, & Others. (1995). Community college leadership in the new century: learning to improve learning. Washington, DC: American Association of Community Colleges. 100 pp.

O'Banion, T. (1997). A learning college for the 21st century. Washington, DC: American Association of Community Colleges and Oryx Press. 260 pp.

Peterson's guide to two-year colleges, 1997 (27th ed.). (1996). Princeton, NJ: Peterson's Guides. 711 pp.

Raby, R. L., & Tarrow, N. (Eds.). (1996). Dimensions of the community college: international, intercultural, and multicultural perspectives. New York: Garland Publishing Inc. 334 pp.

Ratcliff, J. L., Schwarx, S., & Ebbers, L. H. (1994). Community colleges (2nd ed.). ASHE Reader Series. Needham Heights, MA: Simon & Schuster Custom Publishing.

Rhoads, R. A. & Valadez, J. R. (1996). Democracy, multiculturalism, and the community college: a critical perspective. Critical Education Practice, 5. Garland Reference Library of Social Science, 1081. New York: Garland Publishing Inc. 231 pp.

Roueche, J. (1997). Embracing the tiger: the effectiveness debate and the community college. Washington, D.C.: American Association of Community Colleges. 200 pp.

Roueche, J. E., & Others. (1995). Strangers in their own land: part-time faculty in American community colleges. Washington, DC: American Association of Community Colleges. 201 pp.

Seagren, A. T., & Others. (1994). Academic leadership in community colleges. Lincoln, NE: Center for the Study of Higher and Postsecondary Education. 176 pp.

Witt, Allen A., & Others. (1994). America's community colleges: the first century. Washington, DC: American Association of Community Colleges. 344 pp.

The statistics cited were gathered by the National Center for Education Statistics.

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